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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

Guy Barnett, Minister for Health

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New CT scanner at Royal Hobart Hospital improving outcomes for patients

A brand new, state-of-the-art computed tomography (CT) scanner is now in use at the Royal Hobart Hospital's Emergency Department, better enabling clinicians to diagnose patients more accurately and quickly in time-critical and life-threatening situations.

In a Tasmanian first, the SOMATOM X.ceed CT scanner was recently installed at the RHH, thanks to a more than \$1 million investment by the Rockliff Liberal Government.

CT scanners combine a series of X-ray images from different angles around the body to create images of the bones, blood vessels and soft tissues inside the body. They are used in a number of situations, including to analyse internal injuries, diagnose disease or injuries, and to assist with planning treatments.

The RHH's new CT scanner is the fastest on the market, resulting in quicker turnaround times for our busy medical professionals and improved comfort for patients.

Minister for Health, Guy Barnett, said the new machine is already providing benefits to Tasmanian patients and clinicians at the RHH, which in recent years has seen a significant increase in patients presenting to the Emergency Department.

"Our Government is committed to improving outcomes for patients and investing in new equipment and technology to support the health and wellbeing of all Tasmanians," Minister Barnett said.

"This new CT scanner at the Royal Hobart Hospital is a prime example. This is a high-tech, state-of-the-art piece of equipment that is providing improved image quality and reduced scan times.

“This is a win-win for Tasmanian patients and our hard-working hospital staff. It is positive for patients because it means they can be more quickly and accurately diagnosed, in time-critical situations. The scanner also provides for increased comfort for patients.

“For clinicians, the availability of the new machine helps them to treat patients faster, increasing confidence of diagnosis and saving valuable time, as demands on the health system continue to increase.”

The Rockliff Liberal Government is delivering on its long-term plan to provide Tasmanians with the healthcare services they need.